THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) As per Education for All (EFA) Global Monitoring Report 2006, there are 771 million illiterates in 15+age group in the world, out of which 268 million (34.6%) are in India alone.

(c) As per a national survey commissioned by the Government in 2005, the estimated number of out of school children in the country is 1,34,59,734, which is 6.94% of the total children in the age-group of 6-13 years. This figure has reduced to 7 million as on 31.3.2006 as reported by the States/Union Territories.

(d) The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) seeks universalisation of elementary education as well as universal retention by 2010. SSA provides for several varieties of interventions, *inter alia,* opening of new schools, setting up of Education Guarantee Scheme Centres and Alternative and Innovative Education Facilities to enhance enrolment, incentives, focus on education of girls and weaker sections of the society, and to improve quality of education in schools

In addition, context specific interventions for out-of-school children who are 'hardest to reach' such as bridge courses, learning centres with flexibie timings, seasonal hostels, home based education, mobile schools, etc. have also been taken under the SSA.

Orissa, Bihar, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh have been allocated 22.04% of SSA outlay for achieving the goal of Universalisation of elementary education.

States' share in Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

16. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has suggested that States should bear half of the cost of providing education to all children aged 6 to 14 years by 2010 under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan;

(b) if so, whether this will greatly affect implementation of the scheme;

(c) if so, to what extent States have agreed;

(d) whether Government are confident that this cut will not affect implementation of the scheme; and

(e) whether UK Government has announced 200 million pound for implementation of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (d) The centrally sponsored scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) as approved in 2001, envisaged a funding pattern between the Central and State Governments in the ratio of 85:15 during Ninth Plan period, 75:25 during Tenth Plan and 50:50 thereafter. Several State Governments have requested the Government of India to continue the funding pattern of 75:25 for the Eleventh Plan period, in view of difficulties faced by the States to meet the requirements of 50% sharing pattern.

(e) No new agreement has been entered with UK Government in respect of SSA.

Children outside school system

17. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as two-third of those children eligible for secondary and senior secondary education remain outside the school system as on date;

(b) the gross enrolment rate for elementary education *vis-a-vis* secondary education;

(c) the reasons for such a poor situation;

(d) whether the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) has recommended several measures in its report;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the corrective steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) As per the Selected Educational Statistics, 2004-05 (Provisional),